



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

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Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

Executive Order 12196, Occupational Safety and Health for Federal Employees, was signed by the President on February 26, 1980, and becomes effective on July 1. It requires the Secretary of Labor to issue, with OMB approval and in consultation with the Federal Advisory Council on Occupational Safety and Health, a set of basic program elements to help agency heads operate effective programs to protect their workers from job hazards. The Secretary of Labor has submitted for OMB approval the enclosed set of proposed basic program elements.

Last year your Agency participated in the preparation of the Executive order. To assist us in the review of the proposed program elements, we are now asking that you and the heads of sixteen other agencies that assisted in the development of the order comment on the proposed elements.

Your views are particularly sought on the following issues:

- How well will the provisions of the proposal help you carry out your internal occupational safety and health program under the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the new Executive order? Which provisions are most essential for implementation of the order and operation of an effective program? Which are least essential? (There is no need to comment on requirements of the Executive order that are repeated in the proposal.)
- Can the proposed provisions be reconciled with your responsibilities under other laws and Executive orders? If not, what alternatives should be considered?
- To what extent can your existing employee safety and health programs be modified to meet the requirements of the proposal? What suggestions do you have for overcoming any problems you foresee?
- How widely and at what levels should safety and health committees be established? Secretary Marshall pointed out in his submission to OMB that the appropriate level for committees below the national level caused the Federal Advisory Council on Occupational Safety and Health considerable difficulty when it considered the proposal.

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Because issuance of these basic program elements is seriously behind schedule, we are recommending that the President delay the effective date of the Executive order. Nevertheless, I ask for your prompt attention to the Department of Labor's proposal and for a reply within four weeks. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gilbert S. Omenn".

Gilbert S. Omenn
Associate Director for Human
Resources, Veterans and Labor

Enclosure

cc: Secretary of Labor